REMARKS

The abstract has been amended and now contains 145 words. An Information Disclosure Statement is enclosed including reference 2-128243 and an English abstract of that reference. The Examiner's comment about priority is not understood. This is a national stage of a PCT application originally filed in Japan. To the best of Applicant's knowledge, there is no prior Japanese application upon which this PCT application is based.

The Examiner has made a provisional double patent rejection. If, as amended, the Examiner continues to consider the claims in this application to present a double patenting issue and if the claims of the copending application issue prior to allowance of claims in this application, Applicants will file a terminal disclaimer.

Claims 1-17 remain in this application. Claims 1-8 have been amended and new claims 9-17 added.

Each of the independent claims has been amended to include the limitation "the plurality of operating systems being replaced alternately and operated in a time-sharing manner, with all of said plurality of operating systems booted up at the same time." This language is supported at page 6, lines 15-17.

In addition, all independent claims have been amended to claim that "said plurality of operating systems being operated as software of a common computing unit." As to support for this feature, Applicants note the computing unit 104 shown in Fig. 2, in which an OS1 area 103-2 and an OS2 area 103-3 are shown.

The features in the claims relating to operative information which becomes a reference for time refers to means a synchronization operation operating the plurality of operating systems at the same time during time-shared switching operation thereof. The synchronization operation corresponds to OS switching 503-1 in Fig. 4, synchronization trace 506-1 in Fig. 6 and inter-OS communication 509-1. The claims have been amended to better bring this out.

New claim 9 is directed to features of Fig. 2, claims 10-12 to features of Fig. 1, claim 13 to features of Fig. 5, claim 14 to features of Fig. 8, claim 15 to features of Fig. 9, and claim 16 to features of Fig. 10.

Claims 1-3 were rejected as anticipated by McKeeth (USP 6,330,66). Apparently claims 4-8 are also rejected as anticipated. Similarly, claims 1-8 are rejected as anticipated by Zalewski et al. (2002/0016892). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

McKeeth describes a multi-boot as is recognized by the Examiner. Further, this reference discloses that bookmarks for a browser are shared between the operating systems. However, the boot is performed when the multi-boot is performed when the operating systems are booted up or started up. As distinct from the present invention, this does not teach or suggest performing an operation trace at the same time by operating the operating systems during a time-shared switching operation of the operating systems. Therefore, McKeeth cannot cope with the case where an operating system managed time lag is gradually generated and increased. Furthermore, the McKeeth does not explicitly teach the finding of a sequence in which operation information items are generated on the basis of a synchronization operation performed at the same time in the operating systems. This is because the McKeeth fails to teach the sharing of time management; it only teaches the sharing of bookmarks when the operating systems are booted. This fact demonstrates that the McKeeth was not conscious of the problem of sharing of time management let alone suggesting a solution to that problem.

Zalewski et al. discloses a multi-operating system in which mention is made of a heart beat. A CPU, memory and I/O port are assignment-processed so that this assignment-processing is caused to be an operation reference. However, as in McKeeth, an operation trace is not performed at the same time by operating the operating systems during time-shared switching operation of the operating systems. Therefore, this reference also cannot deal with a case where an operating system managed time lag is gradually generated and increased. Furthermore, as in McKeeth, Zalewski et al. does not explicitly teach the finding of a sequence in which operation information items are generated on the basis of a synchronization operation performed at the same time in the operating systems.
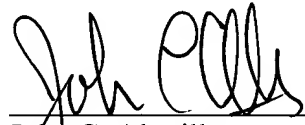
In view of the above noted differences, Applicants believe that all claims remaining in this application are in condition for allowance, prompt notice of which is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (202) 220-4200 to discuss any information concerning this application.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

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